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Correspondence.

We invite communications from our readers in matters connected with the trades we represent. Be brief, courteous, and to the point.

Editor of the Wood-Worker :

THE last issue of the WOOD-WORKER is the best yet out. Give it to us fortnightly, or weekly, next year, if possible. Better worth ten cents per number than any publication I know of. M. P. SMITH.

Editor of the Wood-Worker :

IN the September number of the WOOD-WORKER there is an illustration by Mr. Ridell on Projection which I don't quite understand. I would like to have explained through your columns how the points for describing the ellipse shown are obtained; also, how the bevels are found.

In the article in question your readers are referred to back numbers of the WOOD-WORKER for information; but this is somewhat indefinite, as unskilled readers do not know how to apply previous illustrations to the matter in hand.

A little more light on the subject would certainly be of service to a subscriber from the first. WM. R.

[In reference to the above we may say that "Wm. R." will find a method for describing an ellipse on Plate 22, Fig. 1, March number of the WOOD-WORKER. This method can easily be adapted to the problem that seems to puzzle our correspondent so much. In a subsequent number we will give an illustration showing how the method is applied, and how the bevels are obtained and used.—ED.]

Editor of the Wood-Worker :

I HAVE taken your paper from the first, and on the whole am much pleased with it, though compelled to say its usefulness is very much lessened by the drawings being without scale, and in most cases without any plan of the frame, or idea as to finish. I am an amateur in wood, and am able to form pretty correct estimates of height, width, etc., by comparison with something else in the drawing; for instance, with a chair, or some other article of generally the same height, but this cannot be done in all cases; for if we take Plate 69, September number, the term "small" Japanese cabinet is used. Now the term "small" is so indefinite that I am entirely at a loss to know whether it is small as compared with one 6 or 8 feet high, or with one 3 feet high. This is no doubt due to my want of skill in such matters, but as your journal is for amateurs as well as professionals, I am satisfied it would be much more highly appreciated if these little points were attended to more in detail. At present it is very much like making

your own design to determine the size, detail, finish, etc., suitable for any given piece. H. B.

[The above letter was not intended for publication, but as we have received several letters written in the same vein during the last month, we are persuaded that the subject is deserving of consideration, and we are sure our designers will keep the above hints in mind when preparing drawings for our pages in future. At any rate, we are fully convinced that, when possible, it would enhance the usefulness of the designs reproduced if a graphic scale was added to each one.—ED.]

WE are in receipt of a communication from L. D. Gould, author of "The American Stair-Builders' Guide," in answer to a criticism of his work in our November number by Wm. H. Croker. The communication came too late for publication in the present issue, but will appear in the January number of the WOOD-WORKER.

Intercommunication.

THIS department is intended to furnish, for the benefit of all our readers, practical information regarding the art of manipulating wood by hand or machinery; and we trust that every reader of our paper will make the fullest use of it, both in asking and answering. All persons possessing additional or more correct information than that which is given relating to the queries published, are cordially invited to forward it to us for publication. All questions will be numbered, and in replying it will be absolutely necessary, in order to secure due insertion, that the NUMBER and TITLE of the question answered should be given; and in sending questions, the title of key-words of the question should be placed at the head of the paper. Correspondents should in all cases send their addresses, not necessarily for publication, but for future reference. We also request that all questions or answers be written on separate slips of paper, and addressed to the Editor. Notes of practical interest will be welcome at all times. When drawings are sent to illustrate answers to questions, or for full pages, they should be on separate slips, and should be drawn in ink on clean, white paper. Short questions, requiring short answers, may be asked and answered through the agency of postal cards.

When answers to questions are wanted by mail, the querist must send a stamp for return postage.

Queries.

96. BALUSTER.—How is the body of balusters formed by machinery into octagon twists, or rope moulding? I have been informed that it is done in a lathe, but the process was not explained. Any one enlightening me will much oblige.—E. K.

97. ROPE MOULDING.—Is there any machine outside of a moulding machine that will make rope-moulding expeditiously? How is it done on a moulding machine, and can it be turned out in long pieces, say 12 feet on the lathe? A full explanation of the process of manufacturing rope moulding from you, or any of your readers, will please ROPE MOULDING.

98. GELATINE.—Could you, or any of your readers, give me any information on "cartonnier" and gelatine moulds? By doing so you will oblige a SUBSCRIBER.